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are profusely illustrated in the various forms. There are many beautiful plates in color of ancient and modern compass cards, especially the highly ornate ones of the 14th-16th centuries. On them may be traced the evolution of the modern card from the windroses of the ancients. All the principal maritime powers are represented in the collection. Some of the very latest instruments of different makes are shown.

The printing and engraving are excellent, but the binding is very poor. Most of the cuts are small so that a smaller sheet would be less unwieldy. Less crowding of the individual figures and board covers would add much to the convenience of the reader.

JAMES GORDON STEESE.

A Little Book on Map Projection. By Mary Adams. 108 pp. Ills., index. G. Philip & Son, London, 1914. 2s. 8½ x 5½.

This little book gives a useful and teachable account of map projections without using a single trigonometrical equation. It follows the general lines of Mr. Hinks's recent authoritative work to which the author acknowledges her indebtedness and to which she refers the reader who wishes to go into the more complicated calculations.

The book is intended as an introductory course for secondary schools specializing in practical geography and for this purpose it is admirably adapted. The pupils' interest is increased and the descriptions are elucidated by numerous concrete illustrations from mechanics, physics, and geometry. A special feature is that all the projections are drawn to the scale of a two-inch globe and are, therefore, directly comparable. The treatment is very lucid and interesting. It would add to its usefulness if the table of contents and the work itself were arranged by group subjects or chapters.

JAMES GORDON STEESE.

Praktische Erdkunde, Übungen und Beobachtungen. Von Karl Rüsewald. 176 pp. Maps, ill., index. F. Hirt, Breslau, 1914. Mk. 3. 9 x 6.

This book aims to furnish the teacher of geography with the means of making his pupils comprehend various geographical questions through numerous practical exercises and experiments. It comprises an excellent introductory course, giving the elements of topography, map-making, astronomy, geology, meteorology, commerce, and photography, in this order, in their relation to geography. Common instruments and methods are illustrated and explained. For fuller information the reader is referred to an extensive bibliography arranged by sections to correspond with the body of the work.

The exercises are progressive in their scope and most of them, with a little ingenuity on the part of the instructor, may be performed without special or expensive equipment. For example, the first chapter begins with simple scale problems and plans of the school playground, then of the town, etc. Next contours are explained by models of elementary hill-forms, and so on.

Astronomy and geology take up about half the book. The latter subject is specially well illustrated, but the student, in addition, is required to make excursions into the surrounding country to see for himself the various rock formations, effects of erosion, observe the flow of streams, etc.

JAMES GORDON STEESE.

Geological and Topographical Maps. Their Interpretation and Use.

A Handbook for the geologist and civil engineer. By Arthur R. Dwerryhouse. 133 pp. Ills., index. E. Arnold, London, 1911. 4s. 6d. 9 x 5½.

In the United States we should call this a laboratory manual. It corresponds in good part to the instruction given to students of geology in our universities; the main topic, after a brief statement of the earth's structure, being how to read and interpret geological maps and construct sections from them. A tribute is given to the United States topographic maps for their beauty and clearness that is both unusual and welcome in English works. The author criticizes British contour printing for its failure to produce the effect of relief. He makes no explicit criticism, however, of the British habit of

using two or more contour intervals on the same map, which is necessarily fatal to relief expression. On very large scale maps, he says, contours are too far apart to express hill-shading. That of course is only true if the contour interval is not diminished proportionally. These points are not meant as criticism for the author is abandoning a somewhat narrow British view in the matter. His book is admirable, clear and surely useful.

MARK JEFFERSON.

Contours and Maps: Explained and Illustrated. By Frederick Morrow. 116 pp. Maps, diagrams. Meiklejohn & Son, London, 1913. 1s. 6d. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$.

This little book is a manual of instruction in passing English geography examinations, and it is admirably adapted to that end for readers of very little preparation.

The oroscopic maps that are offered as examples of expressive contouring have their white and dark contours so wide as inevitably to suggest models cut out of cardboard with distinct cliffs at each contour, much inferior to good fine-line contours.

But the greatest interest of the book to an American student of geography is the point of view, an utterly strange one to us. Not geography, not maps, nor even British contour maps are the subject of the book, but such aspects of British contour maps as have seemed important to British examiners. No such book could be printed in America. Our nearest equivalent is the unpublished instruction of some private tutors who get men of doubtful mentality through university examinations. Such an attitude is unfortunate for British geographical instruction, for the teacher who discovers that the British contouring is inferior to that executed by others is forbidden by the examination system to teach the better, but must stick to the worse. There will be no inspiration in his teaching. Moreover there is little chance of getting more expressive contouring into the Ordnance Survey maps—anything even remotely approaching the work of Matthes in this country—as long as examinations are able to exercise this inbreeding effect on methods.

MARK JEFFERSON.

Didaktik der Himmelskunde und der Astronomischen Geographie.

Mit Beiträgen von W. Foerster, K. Haas, M. Koppe, S. Oppenheim, A. Schülke. Verfasst von Dr. Alois Höfler. xii and 414 pp. Ills. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1913. Mk. 11. $10 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$.

The author shows how to overcome the traditional verbalism which has made the teaching of mathematical geography and astronomy such a thankless task in the lower and higher schools. He discusses the causes and effects of the neglect of this study and gives directions how to make the teaching of it real and full of interest for pupils of all ages, how to lead them to an actual understanding of astronomic facts and laws based on observation, instead of learning by heart paragraphs from textbooks. That even textbooks cannot always be relied on he demonstrates by an amazingly large collection of erroneous statements quoted from such books. Although based on the conditions in Austrian schools, the message of the book is not bounded by political lines. The defects of astronomical instruction which are here criticized are liable to be felt by the conscientious teacher of the subject in every country, and many will find in it advice and inspiration for their work, outlines of practical plans of study, suggestions for practical observation for the making of simple apparatus where means are limited, etc. The text is illustrated by many diagrams and two plates.

M. K. GENTHE.

GENERAL

A Pilgrim's Scrip. By R. Campbell Thompson. xii and 345 pp. Map, ill., index. John Lane Co., New York, 1915. \$3.50. 9×6 .

The diary of a savant of the spade and pick, engaged in excavating archaeological finds, and in transcribing cuneiform inscriptions for the British Museum. In a droll, whimsical style, abounding in little-used words and terms,